CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD SANTA ANA REGION 3737 Main Street, Suite 500 Riverside, CA 92501-3348

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF THE SANTA ANA RIVER BASIN WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN (BASIN PLAN)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of the prioritized list of issues to be addressed in the Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the Santa Ana River Basin (Basin Plan). The public hearing will be held at the regularly scheduled Regional Board meeting on July 19, 2002, at the following time and location:

DATE: July 19, 2002 TIME: 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Orange County Water District

10500 Ellis Avenue

Fountain Valley, California

DISCUSSION

The Santa Ana Region includes the Santa Ana River watershed portions of San Bernardino, Riverside and Orange counties, as well as those parts of Orange County tributary to the San Gabriel River and to Newport Bay, and all coastal drainages between Seal Beach and Crystal Cove. The Basin Plan identifies beneficial uses for ground and surface waters within the Region, specifies water quality objectives intended to protect those uses, , and establishes programs to implement and protect those standards. Because of changes in technology, policies and geographic characteristics of the Region over time, the Basin Plan is periodically reviewed and amended, in accordance with state and federal law. Section 13240 of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act states that, "Each regional board shall formulate and adopt water quality control plans for all areas within the region... During the process of formulating such plans the regional boards shall consult with and consider the recommendations of affected state and local agencies. Such plans shall be periodically reviewed and may be revised." Section 303(c)(1) of the Federal Clean Water Act states that the, "...water pollution control agency of such State shall from time to time (but at least once each three year period...) hold public hearings for the purpose of reviewing applicable water quality standards and, as appropriate, modifying and adopting standards." Because the review mandated by the Clean Water Act is to take place every three years, it is termed a "Triennial Review." The last Triennial Review of the Basin Plan was completed in 1998.

To comply with federal and state law, Regional Board staff prepared a proposed list of issues to be addressed in the current Triennial Review of the Basin Plan. The issues on

this list have been prioritized, by fiscal year, to reflect both water quality standards concerns and the availability of needed resources.

On April 26, 2002, the Regional Board conducted a public workshop to solicit public comments on Staff's draft proposed Triennial Review priority list. Board Staff has considered written comments and testimony received at the public workshop regarding the draft prioritized list of Basin Plan Triennial Review issues presented at the April 26, 2002 workshop, and revised the priority of listed issues based on comments received. The highest priority issues are those that staff expects to address during this triennial review period, based on the anticipated available resources.

The Triennial Review priority list to be considered for adoption by the Regional Board, along with a description of each issue, will be posted on the Regional Board's Internet site http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb8/ not later than June 19, 2002. Copies of the proposed priority list will be distributed by mail to those persons known to the Regional Board to have an interest in this matter not later than June 19, 2002. A copy of these documents may also be obtained upon request to Regional Board staff at (909) 782-4130 or by sending an e-mail request to dwoelfel@rb8.swrcb.ca.gov. Alternatively, these documents may be reviewed at the Regional Board office located at 3737 Main Street, Suite 500, Riverside, California, by appointment scheduled between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, after June 19, 2002. Appointments may be scheduled by calling the office at (909) 782-4130.

The Regional Board's consideration of this matter will lead to formal adoption of a prioritized list of Triennial Review issues. The adopted Triennial Review priority list will direct staff resources for Basin Planning through the 2004-05 fiscal year. This review does not necessarily mean that any revisions will be made to the Basin Plan. After investigation by Regional Board staff of the identified priority issues, Basin Plan amendments may be proposed.

Public participation is an important part of this process. The Regional Board will accept written and oral testimony concerning the proposed Triennial Review priority list at the July 19, 2002 hearing. Your expedient written submittal will allow the Regional Board to thoroughly analyze your comments before the Regional Board considers adoption of the Triennial Review priority list. For the accuracy of the record, please provide written copies of oral comments. Comments should be submitted to:

Gerard J. Thibeault, Executive Officer California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region 3737 Main Street, Suite 500 Riverside, California, 92501-3348

Comments or questions regarding this matter should be directed to Mark G. Adelson at the address above, at (909) 782-3234 or by e-mail to madelson@rb8.swrcb.ca.gov.

Any person who is requires special accommodation to participate in the July 19, 2002, Regional Board hearing should contact Barbara Laffoon at (909) 782-3285 no later than July 3, 2002.